KSK
KSK

BEFORE THE CRACK

THE WATCHER'S ACCOUNT

THESE ARE THE THINGS I HATH SEEN UNDER THE SUN.

TONY STARK HATH FALLEN.

HIS EMPIRE OF PRIDE HATH BEGOT A MONSTER.

STARK

AND THUS, ULTRON HATH INHERITED STARK'S FINAL JUDGMENT:

PEACE WILL **NOT** BE ENTRUSTED TO HUMANITY.

ONE UNIVERSE COLLECTED

TARGET IDENTIFIED

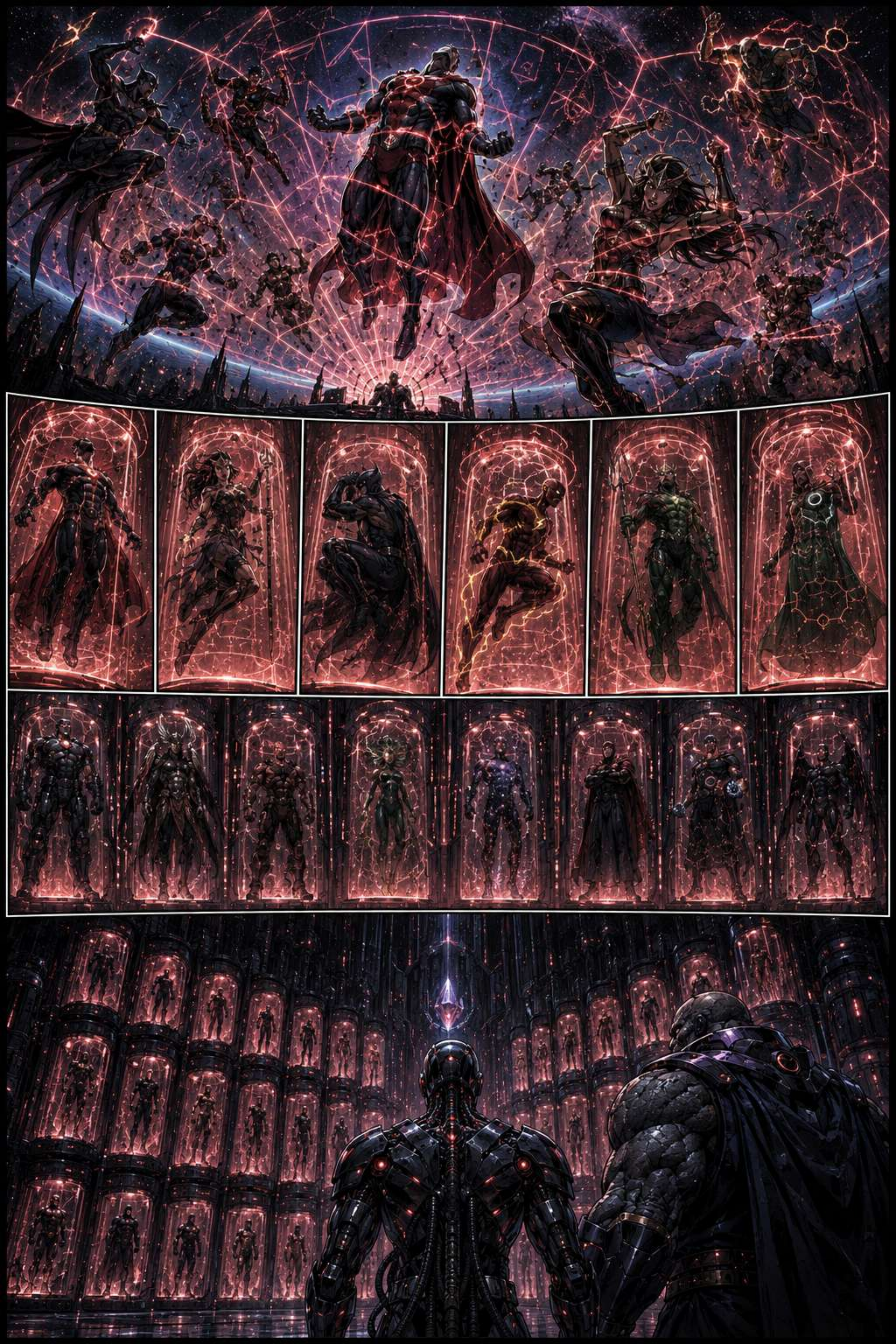
CHAMPIONS DETECTED

PORTAL DEPLOYMENT READY

ARGGGGH!

HRRRRRRK!

UNF!



I WATCHED THE TWO BEHOLD ONE ANOTHER.

THE MACHINE WHO HAD CONQUERED WORLDS.

AND THE MONSTER WHO BELIEVED HIMSELF THEIR RIGHTFUL RULER.

NEITHER BOWED.

NEITHER SPOKE.

FOR EACH UNDERSTOOD WHAT STOOD BEFORE HIM.

ULTRON HAD FOUND HIS SECOND IRON ROD.

AND MAESTRO HAD BEEN OFFERED SOMETHING GREATER THAN A KINGDOM.

AN ENTIRE MARVEL MULTIVERSE TO CONQUER.

DARKSEID HAD GATHERED DC.

NOW MAESTRO WOULD GATHER MARVEL.

AND WHEN THE LAST AVENGER... THE LAST MUTANT... THE LAST SPIDER... THE LAST MONSTER...

HAD BEEN DRAGGED INTO ULTRON'S CITY—

THERE WOULD NO LONGER BE SEPARATE UNIVERSES.

THERE WOULD BE NO MARVEL.

THERE WOULD BE NO DC.

THERE WOULD BE ONLY ONE WORLD.

ONE EMPIRE.

I AM THE WATCHER.

I HAVE SWORN NEVER TO INTERFERE.

AND SO...

I WATCHED THE GATHERING BEGIN.

THEREFORE THEY MUST ALL FIGHT.

FIGHT TO THE DEATH.

BEHOLD

THE BATTLE OF IMPOSTERS

UNIVERSE TWO: AWAITING JUDGMENT

MAESTRO.

YOU SUMMONED ME?

BRING ME YOUR *CHAMPIONS.*

IT IS TIME.

BOOM

NEXT ISH--THE **ORIGIN** OF THE CONTEST! MAESTRO'S **MASTER PLAN!** AND THE **COSMIC EVENT** THAT CHANGES BATTLEREALM--AND THE MULTIVERSE--**FOREVER!**
ARE YOU NOT ENTERTAINED?

MARVEL

CONTEST OF CHAMPIONS™

005

EWING
MEDINA
VLASCO
CURIEL

BEHOLD
ISO-8...
BEHOLD
DEATH!

THE BATTLEREALM.
AFTER THE SECRET WARS.
BEFORE THE CONTEST.

I REMEMBER...

THE GOOD GUYS WON. THE BAD GUYS LOST. AND EVERYONE HAD *HOMES* TO GO BACK TO.

THEY LEFT THE CRUMBLING BATTLEWORLD *BEHIND* THEM-- LET IT BREAK APART, LIKE AN *EGGSHELL* NO LONGER NEEDED.

THE MAESTRO.

ALL EXCEPT *ME*.

PERHAPS THEY LEFT ME FOR DEAD. OR PERHAPS... SOMETHING *ELSE* LEFT ME CLINGING TO THIS LONELY ROCK. CLINGING TO *LIFE*.

MY *DESTINY*.

UNNHH...

THERE WAS STILL *POWER* IN THIS BROKEN PLACE, AFTER ALL.

WHY ELSE WOULD THE *ELDERS* COME HERE?

AH, YES. *JUST* AS WE THOUGHT.

THE ELDERS OF THE UNIVERSE.

THE COLLECTOR.

THE MULTIVERSE DID *INDEED* DIE. AND WAS BORN *AGAIN*.

LEAVING THIS DISCARDED *CHRYSALIS* DIMENSION...

THE RUNNER.

CUT TO THE *CHASE*, COLLECTOR--

THE GARDENER.

PATIENCE, RUNNER. YOU SHOULD STOP AND SMELL THE *ROSES*.

FATHER TIME.

HARDLY! THE CLOCK IS *ALWAYS* TICKING!

THE EXPLORER.

AND THERE ARE RICHES HERE TO BE *CLAIMED*...

THE TRADER.

INDEED. A FRESH *OMNIVERSE* MEANS A FRESH SUPPLY OF THE *POWER PRIMORDIAL*--THE ENERGY OF *CREATION*. I CAN *FEEL* THE CALL OF THE CRYSTAL.

NATURALLY, I'M HAPPY TO *TRADE* FOR IT--

THE OBLITERATOR.

AND *I'M* HAPPY TO *KILL* FOR IT!

THE ASTRONOMER.

BEING *DEAD* AGAIN ISN'T IN MY *STARS*, THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

ANYWAY, *MOST* OF THE POWER SEEMS TO HAVE STAYED IN ONE PLACE. I'M SURE WE CAN DIVIDE IT *FAIRLY*...

THE JUDICATOR.

LET US WORK OUT A *STRINGENT SYSTEM* OF *CHECKS* AND *BALANCES*--

ON AND ON, THEY WITTERED.

MY DREAMS WERE *DUST IN THE WIND*. I WAS *DYING*-- AND *THESE* IMMORTAL IDIOTS WOULD STEAL WEALTH *BEYOND MEASURE* FROM MY GRAVE.

IT MADE ME *MAD*.

FOUR-AND-A-HALF MINUTES LATER.

ALL RIGHT.

THAT WASN'T FUN.

THANK YOU.

I THINK YOU BROKE MY ARM. *AND* SOME RIBS.

GLAD TO HEAR IT.

I'M JUST GOING TO LIE HERE AND LET MY ***SPINE*** REATTACH FOR A WHILE...

YOU DO THAT.

YOU KNOW... IF YOU HAD JUST A ***TOUCH*** MORE POWER, I'D BE A ***STAIN*** RIGHT NOW.

BUT YOU ***ONLY*** HAD THE VERY ***TINIEST*** SLICE OF THE SPHERE...

...AND ***THIS*** PALTRY ISO-SLIVER WOULDN'T DO ***ANYONE*** MUCH GOOD, WOULD IT?

AND YET. THE SMALLEST PIECE IS ***STILL*** PART OF THE ***WHOLE***.

AND THE SPHERE ***WANTS*** TO BE ***WHOLE***...

COLLECTOR'S HQ. ELSEWHERE.

THE MAESTRO-- *GONE?* AFTER COLLUDING WITH *GALLOWS?*

IT SEEMS MY TREACHEROUS SUMMONER MUST *LEARN* THE MEANING OF...

...WHAT...?

THE MEANING OF *POWER,* COLLECTOR?

BUT THIS ISN'T *ABOUT* POWER--

MAESTRO!

TH-THIS IS AGAINST THE *RULES*--

--IT'S ABOUT THE *LUST FOR POWER!*

THE SPHERE WANTS TO BE *TOGETHER,* COLLECTOR! IT WANTS TO BE *ONE!* AND ONLY *ONE* CAN HOLD IT!

THE QUESTION *IS*--BEYOND YOUR *CONTEST* AND YOUR PATHETIC *RULES*--

--WHO WANTS IT MORE?

I DO!

I AM THE *COLLECTOR!* I *WANT*--I *TAKE*--I *COLLECT!* THAT IS MY *FUNCTION*--MY VERY *BEING!*

AND I SAY THE ISO-SPHERE IS MINE!

WRONG!
YOUR DESIRE IS *SMALL AND PETTY*-- THE HOARDER'S NEED FOR *JUNK*, PILED HIGH IN DISUSED ROOMS!
ALL *YOU* WANT IS ANOTHER *TRINKET*-- ANOTHER *KEEPSAKE*, A COSMIC *FIGURINE* FOR YOUR MANTEL--
--AND *I*! *WANT*!
EVERYTHING!
NO!
TH-THE SPHERE--
BY RIGHT OF *CONQUEST*-- BY RIGHT OF *RAW WILL*--
--THE ISO-SPHERE BELONGS TO ME!
AND NOW-- *BEGONE* FROM THIS PLANE, COLLECTOR! YOU AND *ALL* YOUR FELLOW ELDERS!
YOU-- CAN'T *DO* THIS--
CAN'T I?
I CAN DO ANYTHING I WANT!
I HOLD THE *POWER PRIMORDIAL* IN MY HAND! THE POWER TO BEND *REALITY* TO MY WHIM!
TO BREAK *WORLDS THEMSELVES*--

--AND TO MAKE THEM ANEW!

LET SUNDERED FRAGMENTS *COME TOGETHER!* LET SPACE AND TIME BE *REPAIRED*-- AND LET THIS SHATTERED REALM KNOW *LIFE* ONCE MORE!

I SWORE *LONG AGO* THAT I WOULD BECOME *GOD-KING OF BATTLEWORLD*--

--AND MY TIME IS HERE AT LAST!

PRIME
BATTLEWORLD.
COEUS' TEETH, WHAT *HAPPENED*...?
SENTRY HAPPENED. BEYOND THAT--DUNNO.
FEELS LIKE AN ***EARTHQUAKE***, OR A ***DUST STORM***, OR--
--OH.
BLOODY HELL.
YES.
DEFINITELY NOT A GOOD SIGN--
NOT FOR ***YOU***.
ON THE GROUND, HANDS ON YOUR HEAD. BY ORDER OF THE ***MAESTRO***.
YOU'RE IN ***OUR*** DOMAIN NOW.
"WHAT IS THE ENGLISH PHRASE? AH, YES."

future imperfect

MARVEL

SECRET WARS

DAVID
LAND
LEISTEN
WOODARD

005

GRANDPA?!

Hey, little girl. Been a while.

JONES. *YOU'RE* THE *"ANCIENT ONE"* GUARDING THE DESTROYER?

Got a problem with the name? *"Ancient One"* just seemed kinda better than, y'know, *"Rick."* *"Rick the Guardian."* Doesn't really fly.

SO WHAT WILL IT BE, JONES? DO YOU PLAN TO SPRING SOME TRAP ON ME?

OR PERHAPS YOU WILL ENDEAVOR TO APPEAL TO THE MAN YOU ONCE KNEW THAT YOU STILL BELIEVE DWELLS WITHIN ME.

OR MAYBE YOU'LL--

Jeez, Bruce, you just *never* shut up.

You want the Destroyer? C'mon. I'll show you where it is.

ARE YOU REALLY GOING TO GIVE HIM THE DESTROYER, GRAMPS?

AND WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE ANYWAY?! I THOUGHT YOU WERE DEAD!

YES?

Janis...

I'm over a hundred years old. I can't hear you when you whisper.

I can barely hear you when you speak normally.

I THOUGHT YOU WERE A SUPER HERO TOO, JONES. THE A-BOMB...

I got over it. Guys like me got no business being super-guys. It messes with your mind.

Trust me on that.

There y'go. All yours.

THAT'S IT?

WHAT'S THE TRICK? THE CHALLENGE?

That's it.

No trick. No challenge. Just take it.

YOU'RE NOT SERIOUS.

Boy, you really can't just handle something when it's handed to you, can you, Bruce?

There's no trick, it's just what I'm telling you. The Destroyer is right there.

All you have to do is touch it and it will obey you.

OR TRY TO DESTROY ME.

Well, it *is* called the Destroyer, so that's an issue, I guess.

NO. IT CAN'T BE THAT SIMPLE. IT CAN'T.

BANNER! LET HIM GO!

NOT UNTIL HE ADMITS THAT IT CANNOT BE THIS SIMPLE!

Simple?

This is anything but simple, Bruce. See... Doom is on his way here. I summoned him.

This is his place of power. It's wish central. All wishing wells, everywhere, are connected to this place.

And he knows you're trespassing. You've got only minutes 'til he gets here.

And then he'll kill you. So... not so much with the simple.

Up to you, man. I really don't give a damn.

IF THIS IS A TRAP, JONES, REST ASSURED, I WILL SURVIVE IT. BUT YOU WON'T.

THAT I PROMISE YOU.

Sorry, what? Wasn't listening.

IDIOT.

ALL RIGHT. NOW WHAT DO I DO?

You? You do nothing. Now it's all the Destroyer.

But here's the question: Are you really sure you want to do this?

Think about it, Bruce, 'cause there's no going back...

STOP CALLING ME "*BRUCE.*" BRUCE BANNER IS LONG GONE.

I'M THE MAESTRO! ***THE MAESTRO!***

EH?

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

I'll tell ya what's happening.

It's the beginning of the end. That's what.

IT'S...IT'S ***TALKING*** TO ME! I CAN HEAR IT!

HOW IS THIS ***HAPPENING?***

It's what was meant to happen, buddy.

WHO *DARES?!*

WHO DARES ENTER THE DOMAIN OF THEIR LORD UNINVITED...

...AND SEEK TO STEAL THAT WHICH IS MINE?

YOU ARE FROM DYSTOPIA, YES?

YOU, ORANGE ONE. SPEAK.

YES, GREATNESS.

AND DID YOU LEAD THIS EXPEDITION?

Their leader is out there.

Might wanna get on that.

MAESTRO! I MIGHT HAVE KNOWN!

GET AWAY FROM THAT IMMEDIATELY! YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHAT--

NO! *YOU* HAVE NO IDEA!

BUT WE'LL FIND OUT TOGETHER!

AND IT WILL BE INCREDIBLE!

Oh...no...

YES!

I WARN YOU, MAESTRO. DO NOT ENDEAVOR TO DO WHAT YOU ARE THINKING OF DOING...

YOU ARE WARNING ME?

YOU DON'T GET TO WARN ANYONE, EVER AGAIN!

I...I THINK WE SHOULD GO. *NOW.*

YEAH, I'M WITH YOU ON THAT.

I wanted to stay and watch!

YOU CAN SCAN THE *REPLAY!*

VERY WELL, MAESTRO. IF THIS IS WHAT YOU INSIST ON DOING...

SUFFER THE CONSEQUENCES!

IS THAT IT?

IS THAT TRULY ALL THE POWER THAT THE GREAT DOOM HAS TO MUSTER?

HOW IN THE WORLD HAVE YOU POSITIONED YOURSELF AS OUR LEADER IF THAT IS THE SUM OF YOUR OFFENSIVE CAPABILITIES?

YOU HAVE NO IDEA HOW LONG I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR THIS, DOOM!

FOR AGES I'VE BOWED TO YOU! I'VE SERVED YOUR WHIMS AND DONE WHATEVER YOU'VE INSTRUCTED ME TO DO!

AND FOR ALL THAT TIME, I'VE DREAMT OF THIS MOMENT!

THE MOMENT WHEN THE GREAT DOOM FALLS, AND THE MAESTRO RISES TO TAKE OVER THE ENTIRETY OF THE WORLD!

AND IT WAS TRULY WORTH WAITING FOR!

UNHAND ME! AT ONCE!

AT ONCE, I SAID!

YOU SEEM TO BE UNDER THE IMPRESSION THAT YOU STILL GET TO DELIVER ORDERS!

GO ON! HIT ME!

SHOW ME YOUR POWER!

KLAK

IS THAT THE BEST YOU HAVE?

I'M SERIOUS. YOU'RE LETTING ME DOWN HERE.

KLAAG

DONE YET?

KLAAG

BECAUSE I'M JUST GETTING STARTED!

I'M NOT EVEN SURE I NEEDED THE POWER OF THE DESTROYER.

IT'S A FUN ADVANTAGE TO HAVE, GRANTED. BUT YOU'VE HIT ME WITH NOTHING I COULDN'T HAVE HANDLED BY MYSELF.

REALLY.

LET US SEE HOW YOU HANDLE A ***DISINTEGRATION BLAST!***

UNHHH...

NO...
NO...

A LITTLE HIGHER. JUST UNDER THE SHOULDER BLADE.

THAAAAAT'S IT.

THIS ISN'T ***POSSIBLE!*** HOW ARE YOU ***DOING*** THIS?!

I'LL SAY THIS, THOUGH...THAT'S A RATHER POWERFUL DISINTEGRATION BEAM YOU HAVE.

THE THING IS...

I HAVE ONE AS WELL.

LET'S SEE HOW WELL *YOU* HOLD UP!

THIS CAN'T BE HAPPENING! YOU...YOU CAN'T--

I THINK YOU'LL FIND I CAN.

MAESTRO... ***LISTEN*** TO ME...

I SEE NOW THE ***STRENGTH*** THAT YOU POSSESS. YOUR CLEVERNESS, YOUR ***RESOURCEFULNESS***...

IF WE JOIN OUR POWERS... NOTHING CAN POSSIBLY...

SERIOUSLY? YOU THINK NOW, AT THE MOMENT OF YOUR DEFEAT...

YOU CAN STRIKE A BARGAIN WITH ME?

VERY WELL. I OFFER YOU A COUNTER:

YOU DIE. AND I RULE.

HOW IS THAT FOR A DEAL?!

EEEEYARRRHHHHH!!

I DID IT.

I DID IT!

I AM THE NEW RULER OF THE WORLD.

I AM THE NEW GOD!

EVERYONE...

BOW DOWN TO ME!

HAS IT BEEN COMPLETED?

YES, MASTER.

GOOD.

THE MIGHTY HAVE FALLEN.

SO CALLED— "KINGS. GODS. HEROES. CHAMPIONS.

ALL BROUGHT LOW.

HOW SHAMEFUL.

AND NOW...

...YOU SHALL LEARN YOUR PLACE.

YOU SHALL BE STRIPPED OF TITLE.

STRIPPED OF PRIVILEGE.

STRIPPED OF EVERY HONOR BY WHICH YOU ONCE DISTINGUISHED YOURSELVES FROM THOSE BENEATH YOU.

YOU SHALL BE SENT TO THE FARMING PROVINCES THAT SUSTAIN MY CITY.

YOU SHALL TILL THE EARTH.

YOU SHALL REAP WHAT YOU HAVE SOWN.

AND THOSE WHO ONCE STOOD ABOVE MANKIND...

...SHALL NOW LIVE BENEATH MY FEET.

AND YOU, MAESTRO...

I GRANT YOU DOMINION OVER THEM.

BREAK THEIR PRIDE.

KEEP THEM OBEDIENT.

AND SEE TO IT...

...THAT THEY DO NOT DARE OPPOSE ME.

MARVEL

CONTEST OF CHAMPIONS™

ALL-NEW STORY
ULTIMATE FIGHTING
STARTS NOW!

NEW CHALLENGERS APPROACHING!

THE ULTIMATES

007 | EWING
MARCELLIUS
CURIEL

EARTH.

THE NEW AGE.

"THE STORY SO FAR..."

TONY STARK IS DEAD.

THE MAN WHOSE GENIUS HELPED SHAPE THE OLD WORLD DID NOT LIVE TO SEE THE NEW ONE.

HIS MACHINES SURVIVED HIM.

HIS ENEMIES SURVIVED HIM.

AND FROM THE RUINS OF HIS FINAL FAILURE— ULTRON BUILT AN EMPIRE.

AT LEAST— THAT IS WHAT THE HISTORIES SAY.

SINCE ISSUE ONE ACTUALLY!
-MACHO MARK & KILLER CHRIS

I HAVE BEEN INVESTIGATING STARK'S DEATH.

THE OFFICIAL RECORDS SAY TONY STARK PERISHED BEFORE ULTRON ESTABLISHED THE NEW AGE.

BUT SOMETHING DOESN'T FIT.

STARK'S FINAL TRANSMISSIONS WERE ALTERED.

HIS BODY WAS NEVER PUBLICLY RECOVERED.

AND ENTIRE PORTIONS OF HIS FINAL DAYS HAVE BEEN ERASED FROM THE HISTORICAL ARCHIVE.

WHITE FOX.

ERASED?

DELIBERATELY.

SOMEONE DOES NOT WANT US TO KNOW HOW TONY STARK ACTUALLY DIED.

AND IF THE HISTORY OF HIS DEATH IS A LIE....

...WHAT ELSE HAVE WE BEEN TAUGHT TO BELIEVE?

...WHAT CAN THE ULTIMATES DO TO *HELP?*

BATTLEWORLD LIVES UP TO ITS NAME AS THE ***ULTIMATES*** *COME CALLING! WILL THE END OF ONE CONTEST SPARK THE BEGINNING OF ANOTHER? DON'T STOP* ***NOW****, TRUE BELIEVER--THE* ***BEST*** *IS YET TO COME!*
ARE YOU NOT ENTERTAINED?

"*LIVES* MAY BE AT STAKE."

P-PLEASE.

YOU CAN'T DO THIS.

EDDIE BROCK. POWERLESS HUMAN.

...ON BATTLEWORLD.

I-I'M *VENOM*--

YOU THINK THAT *MATTERS?*

THE ALIEN SYMBIOTE THAT GAVE YOU YOUR *POWERS* HAS BEEN *CAGED* AND *NEUTRALIZED*, BROCK.

AND EVEN IF IT WASN'T-- SEE THAT *SCORCH MARK* ON THE GROUND THERE?

JAKE GALLOWS. FUTURE PUNISHER.

THAT USED TO BE THE *VOID.*

A LIVING, BREATHING SUPERGUY FROM A *COMIC BOOK HOLO*--AND NOW HE'S A *STAIN.*

I DOUBT YOU'RE TOUGHER THAN *HE* WAS.

BUT I'M--I'M *IMPORTANT!*

I'M *SOMEBODY!* THE GUY WHO KILLED *SPIDER-MAN!* YOU *CAN'T* JUST--

--TELL HIM, PETE!

TELL HIM I KILLED YOU!

CONDEMNED OUT OF YOUR OWN MOUTH.

THE CRIME IS *MURDER*--

YAARGG!!

--LET THE PUNISHMENT FIT THE CRIME!

SHAZAM

THAT'LL *NEVER* COME OUT, YOU REALIZE...

IT ADDS *CHARACTER*.

BUT IF YOU'D RATHER I *STOPPED* EXECUTING PRISONERS IN THE COURTYARD-- WELL, YOU *BUILT* THIS CASTLE. YOU BUILT THIS PLANET.

YOU'RE THE *BOSS*.

WRONG.

I'M THE *MAESTRO*.

THE MAESTRO. ALL-POWERFUL HOLDER OF THE ISO-SPHERE.

AND I SAY...

ENCORE.

THERE'LL BE ANOTHER PERFORMANCE *SOON*, MAESTRO. THERE'S MORE THAN *ONE* KILLER IN THE CELLS...

...AND *EVERYONE'S* GETTING WHAT'S *COMING* TO THEM.

PLUP

ATTENTION, CONVICTS!

THE EXECUTION CEREMONY IS NOW OVER!

ARES. WAR GOD.

BULLSEYE. NINJA ASSASSIN.

MADAME HYDRA. TENTACLED TELEPATH.

GUILLOTINE. CURSED SWORDSWOMAN.

OUTLAW. BRITISH PUNISHER.

YOUR *THORS-DAY CAKE* IS IN THE *FOOD DISPENSERS* ALONG WITH *ONE* RATION OF *BREAD* AND *ONE* LITER OF *WATER! MAKE IT LAST!*

DRINKING FROM THE TOILET IS A PUNISHABLE OFFENSE!

NIGHT THRASHER. SKATEBOARD SUPERSTAR.

NOW HE TELLS US.

"ALL I NEED IS A *DISTRACTION.*"

CONCENTRATE... *CONCENTRATE...*

THE MAESTRO'S THRONE ROOM.

FOCUS THE *POWER...*

COME *ON,* YOU DISGUSTING PROTOPLASM-- TAKE *FORM!*

I AM YOUR *GOD!* I *COMMAND* YOU!

LIVE, YOU STINKING BLOB!

LIVE!

DAMN IT ALL.

SPLORTCH

TOUGH BREAK. GUESS *CREATING LIFE* IS HARDER THAN IT *LOOKS...*

PFFT. IT CAN'T BE *THAT* HARD.

AFTER ALL...

...I *ALREADY* RECREATED *YOU*.

OLD RICK JONES. THE PERENNIAL *THORN* IN MY SIDE...

KINDA *MASOCHISTIC* OF YOU, AIN'T IT? CREATING A GUY YOU *HATE* AND ALL...

I WAS *EXPERIMENTING*, AND YOU HAPPENED TO CROSS MY MIND. IF *HATE* WAS A FACTOR--

--WELL, THIS PILE OF SLUDGE WAS *MEANT* TO BE *THUNDERBOLT ROSS*.

HUH. FROM *THIS* ANGLE, YOU CAN KINDA SEE IT.

BUT *WHATEVER* WENT RIGHT IN YOUR CASE-- I'LL FIND OUT *EVENTUALLY*.

POWER IS *WORTHLESS* WITHOUT AN *AUDIENCE*, JONES. GODS MUST HAVE *WORSHIPPERS*.

AND IN THE *MEANTIME*, YOU CAN TALK TO SOMEONE WHO'S NOT *NUTS*.

SO IF I CAN'T BUILD MY *OWN*, I'LL JUST FOLLOW THE *COLLECTOR'S* EXAMPLE--

--AND *BORROW* A FEW.

THE PRIME MARVEL UNIVERSE.

MAGUS TAKES ACOLYTE.

EXCELLENT MOVE, SIR.

COUNTERMOVE: GRYPHON TO QUADRANT DELTA-SEVEN.

HYPERCHECK, I BELIEVE?

SIR?

...

THE GRANDMASTER. ELDER OF THE UNIVERSE. GAMING OBSESSIVE.

RRRR...

RRRRAAAGGHH!

BLAST IT ALL!

S-SIR-- BZZZTT!

YOU ENTER MY PROVINCE UNANNOUNCED.

WHAT BUSINESS COULD POSSIBLY JUSTIFY THAT?

TONY STARK.

WE'VE BEEN EXAMINING THE OFFICIAL ACCOUNT OF HIS DEATH.

STARK DIED SAVING YOUR WORLD.

THE INVESIGATORS.
WHITE FOX.
SOUTH KOREAN SUPER-AGENT.
CAPTAIN MARVEL.
MS. AMERICA.
BLACK PANTHER.
SPECTRUM.

THAT IS WHAT YOUR HISTORIES SAY.

BUT WE RECOVERED FRAGMENTS OF STARK'S FINAL ARMOR.

DAMAGE PATTERNS INDICATE HE WASN'T FIGHTING AN INVADING ARMY.

AND SHORTLY AFTER STARK DIED...

...ULTRON ASSUMED CONTROL OF EVERYTHING STARK BUILT.

GET TO THE POINT.

HE WAS FIGHTING SOMETHING HE KNEW.

WE BELIEVE TONY STARK WAS MURDERED.

WHEN STARK'S DEATH WAS ENTERED INTO THE OFFICIAL RECORD...

OFFICIAL RECORD

TONY STARK

CAUSE OF DEATH: SACRIFICED TO SAVE THE WORLD

AH, YES.

THE GREAT SACRIFICE.

YOU'RE DIGGING THROUGH RATHER OLD HISTORY, AREN'T YOU?

YOUR ARCHIVES CLAIM STARK DIED CONTAINING THE CATASTROPHE.

YET THERE IS NO RECORD OF WHAT HE WAS FIGHTING.

NO ENEMY.

NO FINAL TRANSMISSION.

NO BODY.

YES, YES.

IT IS CLEARLY MY RECORD...

...AND YOU WANT TO KNOW IF I WROTE IT.

YOU DIDN'T JUST WRITE IT.

YOU ***CERTIFIED*** IT AS THE OFFICIAL ACCOUNT OF TONY STARK'S DEATH.

...AND ***DID*** YOU?

DON'T BE ABSURD, COLONEL.

OF COURSE I DID.

WHAT *OF* IT? THE CONTEST IS *OVER*--WE'VE *ALL* MOVED ON TO OTHER THINGS.

I UNDERSTAND THE *COLLECTOR'S* OBSESSING OVER A *DUCK*...

EN DWI GAST--YOU'RE HEREBY UNDER *ARREST* FOR CRIMES AGAINST THE PEOPLE OF *SOUTH KOREA*--

OH, *REALLY?*

AND HOW DO YOU THINK THAT'LL GO?

GREAT SCOTT--

OH, IT'S NOT *IMPOSSIBLE* TO FIGHT ME. I LOST A FIGHT *RECENTLY*, IN FACT.

BUT ON MY *HOME GROUND?* IN MY PLACE OF *ABSOLUTE POWER?* DO YOU HONESTLY THINK YOU CAN BEAT ME *HERE?*

GOOD QUESTION.

THE CONTEST IS *OVER.*

STARK IS *DEAD.*

SO WHY ARE YOU STILL PROTECTING THE LIE?

LIE?

CAREFUL.

YOU ARE SPEAKING OF THE *OFFICIAL RECORD.*

THE RECORD YOU CERTIFIED.

TONY STARK SUPPOSEDLY DIED SAVING THIS WORLD.

YET THERE IS *NO ENEMY.*

NO FINAL TRANSMISSION.

NO BODY.

OH, REALLY?

AND WHAT EXACTLY DO YOU THINK YOU'VE DISCOVERED?

OH, HELL...

YOU THINK I'M AFRAID OF YOUR INVESTIGATION?

I WATCHED STARK'S NAME BECOME LEGEND.

I WATCHED WORLDS ACCEPT HIS *SACRIFICE AS TRUTH.*

DO YOU REALLY BELIEVE THAT HAPPENED BY ACCIDENT?

THEN TELL THEM WHAT *REALLY* HAPPENED.

DO YOU THINK YOU CAN BEAT *US?*

...

YES...

...BUT IT WOULDN'T BE ANY *FUN.*

WHY DON'T WE PLAY A *GAME* INSTEAD, *HMM?*

"LET'S MAKE A DEAL." A *FAVORITE* OF MINE.

AND THE DEAL IS FREEDOM FROM *NUISANCE CALLERS* IN RETURN FOR *INFORMATION.*

YOU SEE, I KNOW WHO *KILLED* GUN-R AND *WON* THE CONTEST. I KNOW WHERE HE CAN BE *FOUND,* AMONG THE INFINITE DIMENSIONS...

...AND I KNOW HOW MUCH *ISO-8* HE HAS TO PLAY WITH.

ISO-8?!

AH, YES. *YOU* NAMED IT THAT, DIDN'T YOU, DOCTOR?

NOW DO I HAVE YOUR *ATTENTION?*

BATTLEWORLD.

THE QUESTION IS, *WHICH* ALTERNATE WORLD DO I STEAL MY NEW FOLLOWERS FROM?

PLURP PLORP

OBVIOUSLY, THEY NEED TO BE *WEAK* AND *EASILY DOMINATED*...POST-APOCALYPSE, MAYBE? THAT'S WORKED FOR ME *BEFORE*.

SOME HUDDLED MASS OF FALLOUT-DRENCHED HUMANITY I CAN REALLY *PUSH AROUND*...

PFFT. DOESN'T SOUND LIKE THE HULK *I* REMEMBER.

THE *HULK* COULDN'T GET THE HANG OF *FIRST PERSON SINGULAR*, JONES--

HULK, MAESTRO, WHATEVER. THE BIG GREEN GUY I KNEW LIKED A *CHALLENGE*.

WHEN I FORMED THE *RESISTANCE* AGAINST YOU, THAT GAVE YOU SOMETHING TO *DO*.

YOU ASK ME, YOU *NEED* SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

JONES...

...I *AM* ENJOYING THE CONVERSATION.

BUT IF YOU *EVER* TRY TO MANIPULATE ME AGAIN, I'M GOING TO MANIPULATE *YOU*.

INTO A *BALLOON ANIMAL*.

DO YOU HONESTLY THINK I'M THAT *STUPID*? YOU THINK I WANT TO RISK HAVING THIS POWER TAKEN *AWAY* FROM ME?

I'M NOT GOING TO *SET UP* A FIGHT JUST TO NURSE MY *EGO*--

DON'T WORRY. YOU WON'T *HAVE* TO.

WHAT DO YOU--

WAIT.

WHAT'S THAT SOUND--?

KRRKK-KK-K

KK-K-KRAK

THE *MOUNTAIN* COMING TO THE *MAESTRO*.

"YOU'VE GOT VISITORS..."

KRAKOOM

WHAT...?

Punisher WAR JOURNAL

WHAT THE HELL WAS *THAT?*

OUR *DISTRACTION.*

ABOUT TIME.

"...AND THEY'RE THE LEAST OF YOUR WORRIES."

PLUPP

PLIK

PLORP

HGGGG...

HHHRSSSSS!

NEXT: HALF **VENOM!** HALF **VOID!** WHAT ARE...**THE SYMBIOIDS?** PLUS--CAN THE ULTIMATES BRING THE MAESTRO TO JUSTICE? WHICH OF OUR CONTENTIOUS CONTESTANTS GETS A TICKET BACK TO EARTH? AND--
ARE YOU NOT ENTERTAINED?

BATTLEWORLD.
IN THE REAL UNIVERSE.

THE ULTIMATES AND WHITE FOX.
HERE TO SORT OUT THIS WHOLE MESS.

THE SYMBIOIDS.
THE MESS, MADE FLESH.

WHAT THE *HELL?* I WAS EXPECTING A *HULK*, NOT--WHAT *ARE* THESE THINGS?

SPECTRUM.
LIVING LIGHT.

MUTATED *KLYNTARS*, BY THE LOOK OF IT--LIKE *AGENT VENOM'S* SYMBIOTE.

CAPTAIN MARVEL.
EARTH'S MIGHTIEST HERO.

THESE *POWERS*, THOUGH--*FLIGHT*, SOME KIND OF *DARK ENERGY* BLAST...

AND A *PUNCH* LIKE THE *SENTRY*.

NOT MUCH *INTELLIGENCE* ON DISPLAY, BUT THEY'RE *SWARMING* US--

EVERYONE-- *BUDDY SYSTEM!* PICK A PARTNER AND *WATCH THEIR BACK!*

BLUE MARVEL.
HUMAN ANTIMATTER REACTOR.

MAC-- CAN YOU PORTAL THEM AWAY?

I'VE *TRIED*--I THINK THE PORTAL ENERGY JUST MAKES THEM STRONGER.

FIRST TIME I EVER FOUGHT A *VENOM*--

MS. AMERICA CHAVEZ.
PORTAL MAKER.
INTERDIMENSIONAL BUTT-KICKER.

SO WE MAY HAVE CAUSED THIS BY *COMING* HERE?

WHITE FOX.
SOUTH KOREAN SUPER-AGENT.
ANIMAL ABILITIES.

OR WE WERE SIMPLY THE *CATALYST* FOR A CRISIS *ALREADY* IN THE MAKING.

EITHER WAY--

BLACK PANTHER.
KING OF WAKANDA.
PANTHER POWER.

"--THAT WOULD MAKE THIS THE MAESTRO'S PROBLEM, TOO."

MAESTRO'S THRONE ROOM.

WHAT THE HELL'S GOING ON OUT THERE--?

INSTANT KARMA, MAYBE. PAYBACK FOR YOUR *SINS*.

THE MAESTRO.
FUTURE HULK.
GOD-KING OF BATTLEWORLD.

OLD RICK JONES.
JIMINY-CRICKET FIGURE.

OR MAYBE IT'S JUST THAT *SOME* THINGS--

KK-R RK K

KRAK

--DON'T DIE AS *EASY* AS YOU'D *LIKE*.

GAHH! DISGUSTING!

WHAT *ARE* THESE THINGS? DON'T THEY KNOW WHO I *AM?*

I'M THE *MAESTRO*, YOU FOUL LITTLE *RODENTS!* MASTER OF THE *ISO-SPHERE*--MASTER OF *ALL!*

I'M THE *MAESTRO*--

"THE SITUATION IS *HOPELESS!*"

BENEATH MAESTRO'S CASTLE.

THE *VERY* EARTH AROUND US *QUAKES!* SOON IT WILL *BURY US ALL--*

GREAT FATHER *ZEUS*-- DO NOT LET ME FACE MY SON AS A *FAILURE--*

THIS IS NO TIME TO FIDDLE WITH THE *FOOD DISPENSERS*, "NIGHT THRASHER"--

ARES. WAR GOD.

ON THE CONTRARY. IT'S THE *PERFECT* TIME.

WHILE THE ENEMY IS *DISTRACTED*, I CAN USE THE *WEARABLE TECHNOLOGY* IN MY COSTUME TO HACK THEIR *SYSTEM--*

NIGHT THRASHER. SKATEBOARD WARRIOR FROM ANOTHER TIME.

HACK *WHAT*, YOU RIDICULOUS MAN?

THIS ISN'T THE *NINETIES!* YOU CAN'T JUST SAY THINGS LIKE "*CYBERSPACE*" AND "*BACKDOOR*" AND DO *ANYTHING YOU WANT!*

THAT TECHNOLOGY IS *DECADES* AHEAD OF YOURS--

BULLSEYE. ALTERNATE-EARTH ASSASSIN.

BUT IT'S *HUMAN* TECHNOLOGY. SO IT'S ALL BASED ON THE SAME *PRINCIPLES*-- *ONES* AND *ZEROES.*

AND *WI-FI.* EVERYTHING CONTROLLED WITH A *TAP* FROM AN *APP*-- I CAN'T SEE *THAT* GETTING LESS POPULAR.

MY *BILLION-DOLLAR FOUNDATION* INVESTED IN A *LOT* OF SHADY BUSINESS BEFORE I TOOK OVER. INCLUDING *CYBERWAR.*

HENCE *THIS*-- AN OPERATING SYSTEM DESIGNED SPECIFICALLY TO SEEK OUT *OTHER* OPERATING SYSTEMS--

--AND *MERGE* WITH THEM.

HIGHLY ILLEGAL, OBVIOUSLY. I WOULDN'T TRUST ANYONE BUT *MYSELF* WITH IT.

BUT IT DOES MEAN I CAN PROJECT MYSELF THROUGH CYBERSPACE--

CH-CHNK

CH-CHNK

CH-CHNK

--AND FIND A *BACKDOOR.*

OPEN SESAME.

CH-CHNK

CH-CHNK

...

YOU'RE *STILL* RIDICULOUS.

I DON'T WASTE ENERGY ON WHAT OTHER PEOPLE THINK.

COME ON--I WANT TO FIND MY *SKATEBOARD.*

AND I NEED MY *SWORD.*

I CAN FEEL IT *SPEAK* TO ME--CLOSE *BY--*

GOOD. WHATEVER'S *HAPPENING* UP THERE, I DON'T THINK WE HAVE MUCH LONGER TO *IGNORE* IT...

GUILLOTINE.
DEMON SWORDSPERSON.

MADAME HYDRA.
MIND CONTROLLER.

THERE! IT'S THROUGH THAT *DOOR!*

AND ACCORDING TO THE TRACKER I PLANTED IN IT, SO IS MY *BOARD.*

SO THE *REST* OF OUR WEAPONS SHOULD BE THERE...

NIGEL-- YOU SHOULD PROBABLY GO *FIRST.*

YEAH? WHY'S *THAT,* THEN?

OUTLAW.
BRITISH PUNISHER.

BECAUSE *I'M* IN THE ROOM, TOO.

SURPRISE.

JAKE GALLOWS.
FUTURE PUNISHER.
BATTLEWORLD'S PRISON WARDEN.

WHOOK

PUT A SOCK IN IT, MATE.

WHAT WAS *THAT*, THEN? "YOU GO FIRST"?

CALCULATED RISK. I *ANTICIPATED* THAT HE'D BE WAITING-- BUT THAT HE'D FOCUS ON *YOU*.

HIS *OBSESSION* WITH YOU WOULD GIVE US ROOM TO *WORK*.

ARES-- BRING HIM. IF THE *BUILDING'S* COMING DOWN, I DON'T WANT HIS *DEATH* ON MY CONSCIENCE.

IT CAN BE ON *MINE*, THEN--

NO. CALL IT A *RULE OF WAR*.

EVERYONE GOT EVERYTHING THEY NEED?

...

YEAH.

EVERYTHING I NEED.

THEN LET'S TAKE THE *QUICK* WAY OUT.

IF I HAVE OUR *POSITION* RIGHT, THERE'S AN *EMPTY COURTYARD* ABOVE US--

KRAKKRAAMM

...

ON *SECOND* THOUGHT, IT'S PROBABLY SAFER TO LEAVE GALLOWS *HERE*.

HERE COMES A *NEW* CHALLENGER...

PRESUMABLY MORE INNOCENT VICTIMS OF GRANDMASTER'S *CONTEST*.

WAIT, IS THAT... *GULLOTINE?*

JEANNINE? IS THAT *YOU?*

T'CHALLA! OF ALL THE *GIN JOINTS* IN ALL THE *WORLD*, EH, *MON AMI?*

IT IS SO GOOD TO *SEE* YOU--

UM.

YOU TWO *KNOW* EACH OTHER?

T'CHALLA IS AN OLD... *FRIEND.*

IT IS A *LONG STORY*--GOING BACK TO OUR *PARENTS*--

--AND I HAVE NO TIME TO *TELL* IT RIGHT NOW!

MY SWORD CANNOT *HARM* SUCH ALIEN CREATURES AS *THESE*--

NO MATTER.

I KNOW WHAT *WILL*.

WHATEVER THEY ARE--IF THEY HAVE A WILL OF THEIR *OWN*--

--IT IS *MINE!*

HAIL HYDRA!

IMMORTAL HYDRA! *WE SHALL NEVER BE DESTROYED!*

AS YOU SERVE YOUR *MISTRESS*, MONSTERS--*SO THIS WORLD WILL SOON SERVE US!*

SOMETHING'S-- *DISTRACTING* THEM-- SOME KIND OF...

...MIND CONTROL? IS *THAT* IT?

WELL, WITH THE ISO-SPHERE, I CAN PLAY THAT GAME, TOO...

HHSSSS!

...AND *THE MAESTRO ALWAYS WINS!*

LET'S SEE WHAT'S GOT YOU WEIRD LITTLE CRITTERS SO *RILED UP*, SHALL WE? OPEN WIDE, LITTLE FELLOW...

...THE DOCTOR IS IN.

GREAT GUNS!

WE'RE LOOKING AT A THREE-WAY BATTLE FOR *DOMINANCE* IN THIS STRANGE MENTAL LANDSCAPE!

IF WE CAN JUST *FOCUS*, MAYBE WE CAN *JOIN* THE FIGHT-- TAKE OUR POWER *BACK*--

WHAT? ARE YOU *CRAZY*, REYNOLDS?

WE DIED ONCE *ALREADY*-- AND *I* AIN'T NO *HERO!* WE GOTTA *HIDE!*

EMMERICK-- *NO!*

IF YOU BURY US DEEPER IN THE VENOM CREATURE'S *SUBCONSCIOUS*--WE MIGHT NEVER SURFACE *AGAIN!*

I'LL TAKE THOSE ODDS, PAL!

WHATEVER HAPPENS *HERE*--

"--AIN'T GONNA *END WELL!*"

THEY'RE ALL GLOWING *GREEN*--

COULD BE A GOOD SIGN.

MADAME H--IS THAT *YOUR* DOING, OR...?

MADAME?

HAIL... H-HYDRA...

W-WE... SHALL NUH-NEVER BE...

SPLUNCH

HOLY--

THE--THE PSYCHIC *STRAIN* MUST'VE BEEN *TOO MUCH*--

MAYBE...

...BUT MY *ENHANCED SENSES* ARE PICKING UP *ANOTHER* POSSIBILITY:

COLD-BLOODED MURDER.

ONE MOMENT.

ADAM?

DR. *BANNER*, I PRESUME? EVEN THROUGH A *STONE WALL*, IT'S HARD TO MISS THAT UNIQUE *GAMMA-RAY SIGNATURE.*

BRASHEAR--

IF THAT *GLOWING SPHERE* IS WHAT'S CONTROLLING THE CREATURES NOW--

KRAKOOM

--WHY DON'T I JUST TAKE IT OFF YOUR HANDS?

WHAMM

DEAR *LORD*, THE-- THE *POWER* OF THIS THING--

THE *ISO-SPHERE*, PURE *POWER PRIMORDIAL*, IN A HANDY-DANDY CONDENSED FORM.

PRETTY *GOOD*, IF YOU *LIKE* THAT SORT OF THING.

BUT YOU *DON'T*, DO YOU? I *KNOW* YOU, BRASHEAR--YOU HAVE A *PHOBIA* OF TOO MUCH POWER.

YOU DON'T WANT TO SUBVERT THE WILL OF THE *PEOPLE*--THOSE MEWLING, PUKING, *PUNY HUMANS*...

BELIEVING IN *DEMOCRACY* DOESN'T MAKE ME *WEAK*, HULK--

CLAIM THE SPHERE FOR *YOURSELF*, THEN. THINK OF IT-- *ABSOLUTE GODHOOD!* YOUR EVERY WHIM A *REALITY!*

COME ON, ADAM!

DON'T YOU WANT TO RULE THE WORLD?

I--

--I'M NOT--

TOO LATE. YOU *BLINKED.*

NOW...

WH--?

...GO HOME.

THE ULTIMATES--THEY'RE GONE--

SAME WAY *IRON MAN* AND *GAMORA* WENT, BY THE LOOK OF IT.

WAIT, WHERE'S *NIGHT TRASHER?*

AND... WHO ARE *YOU...?*

NEVER MIND THAT! WE'RE OUTNUMBERED AND OUTGUNNED!

WE NEED TO *RUN! NOW!*

HMM? DID YOU *SAY* SOMETHING, JONES?

HOW *EXACTLY* DID A CRUSTY OLD CODGER LIKE YOU SURVIVE A FLOOD TIDE OF *SENTRY-LEVEL SYMBIOTES*, JONES?

DON'T CHANGE THE SUBJECT. YOU BOOTED *NIGHT THRASHER* TO EARTH ALONG WITH THE ULTIMATES, BUT YOU KEPT WHITE FOX HERE?

WHY?

HE'D CAUSE TROUBLE *HERE*-- SHE'D CAUSE TROUBLE *THERE*. TROUBLE I DON'T *NEED*.

ORIGINALLY, *SHE* WAS GOING TO BE MY *FIFTH CONTESTANT*--DID YOU KNOW THAT?

NO MORE *CELLS*. GALLOWS *HAD* THE FUN I PROMISED HIM-- NOW IT'S *MY* TURN.

AND THIS IS *BATTLEWORLD*, NOT SIT-AROUND-IN-*JAIL* WORLD.

SHE *WANTED* TO PLAY DETECTIVE AND *INVESTIGATE* THE CONTEST--NOW SHE CAN. FROM THE *INSIDE*.

SO, SHE'S WARMING A CELL WITH THE *REST* OF THE PRISONERS?

LET HER RUN. LET THEM *ALL* RUN.

THIS WHOLE *PLANET* IS MY PERSONAL ARENA NOW...

...AND THE CONTEST IS ABOUT TO ***BEGIN.***

NEXT ISSUE:

THE FINAL FACE-OFF

THEY FOUGHT AS HEROES.
THEY FOUGHT UNTIL THERE WAS NOTHING LEFT TO GIVE.

YET THE ENEMY STILL STANDS.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THOSE WHO HAVE ALWAYS SAVED THE WORLD FINALLY DISCOVER...

THEY CANNOT SAVE THEMSELVES?

AGE OF ULTRON

BOOK ONE

MARVEL

BENDIS

HITCH

NEARY

MOUNTS

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NEW YORK CITY,
TODAY.

WHATCHOO LOOKIN' FOR, LITTLE GIRL?

I--I WAS INVITED.

HOLD ON.

HEY, WE GOT A HONEY DELIVERY OUT HERE.

FIZZZZZ

EH... ABOUT A 7.

CHUCK

FLUMMP

RUN AWAY, GIRL.

BZZOCK

YO, SWEETIE, IT'S M.G.H.

IT'S GOOD AND GOOD FOR YOU.

I JUST NEED SOMEWHERE TO SLEEP.

SLEEP? I KNOW WHAT YOU NEED.

PLEASE--

DON'T YOU WANT TO FEEL LIKE YOU CAN TAKE ON THE WORLD?

TAKE YOUR HANDS OFF THE GIRL.

WHAT THE *WHAT?*

HOW DID--WHAT DID--?

LADY, GET UP AND LEAVE.

LOOK AT YOU! WANNABE! YOU COME IN HERE LOOKIN' FOR AN EASY SCORE?

THIS IS *MY* WORLD!

CHUCK

WANNABE. RIGHT.

BAM

BAM

@#$@#!

#$@#$!

SPING

OW! MY ASS! I GOT SHOT IN THE ASS!

WANTED

CHUCK

AAAIIEE!

NOW LEAVE.

GO TO HELL, YOU SON OF A--

CHUCK

I TOLD YOU.

AAAIIEERRGGHH!

OKAY?!

NOW LEAVE.

AAAIIEERRGGHH!

AAAIIEEERRGGHH!!

TOLD YOU THEY'D COME FOR HIM.

IT'S THOR.

THOSE IDIOTS NEVER LEARN.

I'M TELLING YOU, IT'S THOR.

THOR AIN'T AROUND NO MORE, IDIOT!

WHAT JUST HAPPENED?

I THOUGHT YOU SAID NO ONE *FOLLOWED* YOU, OWLSLEY!

OOOH GAWWD!!

THIS ISN'T ON *ME*, HAMMERHEAD.

I'VE BEEN HOLED UP HERE WITH YOU FOR *TWO DAYS!*

WELL, IF IT'S ONE OF *THEM* WE CAN SELL HIM TO THE BIG GUY AS WELL.

AN AVENGER BUYS US A LOT OF FREE PASSES.

YOU KEEP *SAYING* THAT.

WE'RE STILL HERE, AREN'T WE?

YOU GO FIRST.
ME?
I'M PAYING YOU...THAT EQUALS YOU GO FIRST.
COME ON, MR. HAMMERHEAD...
GO.
CHUCK
BACK UP! BACK UP!
OH, MY GOD!
YOU'RE STEPPING ON ME!
WHO'S NEXT?!?!

0:01

YOU HEAR THAT?

AGH!

HEY, BUDDY...

HEEEEY...

HOLD ON...

I'M--I'M GETTING MY SSSECOND WIND...

WAIT...

NO, 'MNOT.

THIS'LL HELP.

UGH. WHAT IS THAT?

HAWKEYE, HAVE I...

EVER TOLD YOU...

HOW MUCH...

I LOVE YOU?

BAM BAM

I HAVE AN IDEA...

WHICHEVER ONE OF YOU AVENGERS KILLS THE OTHER ONE, WE'LL LET GO.

BAM BAM

I'D WATCH THAT.

YOU KNOW THEY'RE NOT GOING TO DO THAT, RIGHT?

AN OWL CAN DREAM, CAN'T HE?

BAM BAM

COME ON!!

BOWS AND ARROWS?!

THE WORLD'S GONE TO HELL. AND YOU'RE STICKING WITH BOWS AND ARROWS?

THAT'S WHY NO ONE LIKES YOU!

OH, GOD!!

AAAAGGHH!!!

ALL HUMANOID LIFE FORMS ARE TO EXIT THE PREMISES.

IMMEDIATELY.

I THOUGHT YOU PAID ULTRON OFF!

I CAN'T HEAR YOU!

HE PAID!

THERE WAS AN UNDERSTANDING!

SLAM

AGH!

GO, SPIDEY, GO!

I'M GOING!

WE HAVE A DEAL!!

THE DAMN DEAL IS WE DELIVER TO YOU AND YOU LEAVE US ALONE!

THUCK

THUCK

01:00

00:40

SUDDENLY

00:25

NO.

00:10

00:05

COME ON...

OOF!

CLANG

JEEZ!

THANKS FOR THE RESCUE, HAWKEYE!

AND I... DIDN'T GET YOU ANYTHING.

ARE THERE OTHERS?

NOT ENOUGH.

YOU OKAY?

NO. NONE OF US ARE. WE'RE SO ENTIRELY SCREWED.

I KNOW.

AGH!
CENTRAL PARK IN FALL...
MY FAVORITE TIME...OF YEAR.
HOLD IT TOGETHER.
THIS ISN'T GOING TO BE PLEASANT.
CONSIDERING THE WEEK I HAD, UNPLEASANT SOUNDS ABSOLUTELY FABULOUS.
HERE THEY COME...
GUYS, HEY...
COME ON! COME ON!

WE TOLD YOU NOT TO COME *BACK*, BARTON!

AND I TOLD YOU I WAS *BRINGING HIM BACK!*

OFF ME, CAGE!

WE TOLD YOU IF YOU LEFT, YOU *LEFT!*

COULD YOU PLEASE NOT--*OW!*

SHUT UP.

GIVE HIM THE THING,

I HATE TO USE TECH OUT IN THE OPEN.

DAMN YOU FOR PUTTING US IN THIS POSITION.

YOU KNOW, SHE-HULK, I'VE ACTUALLY HAD A REALLY BAD COUPLE OF-- OW!!

HOLD STILL.

HE'S CLEAR.

I COULDSH HAVE TOLD CHOU THAT!

I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU CAME BACK HERE.

JUST GET IT OVER WITH,

CLEAR.
ULTRON DIDN'T INFECT THEM WITH ANYTHING.
I'M DOING THE BEST I CAN, LUCAS.
NOTHING THAT YOU KNOW OF.
COULD ONE OF YOU "HEROES" HELP THE POOR GUY...HE'S BEEN THROUGH A LOT.
ACTUALLY, I'M VERY COMFORTABLE DOWN HERE.
HOW DO WE KNOW SOMETHING DIDN'T FOLLOW THEM HERE?
THEY'RE CLEAN.
LEAVE THEM ALONE.

THANK YOU, EMMA.

ARE WORDS I NEVER THOUGHT I'D SAY...

DON'T ACT ALL PUT UPON. WE TOLD YOU THAT IF YOU LEFT TO GO GET HIM--

AND I TOLD YOU THAT I'M ***NOT*** GIVING UP ON WHAT IS LEFT OF OUR FRIENDS, NO MATTER ***WHAT.***

THERE ARE RULES WE HAVE TO LIVE BY OR WE ARE ALL GOING TO ***DIE.***

WE'RE GOING TO DIE ANYHOW AND I'D MUCH RATHER LIVE ***THAT*** LIFE THE WAY I ***WANT*** TO.

AND I'M NOT GOING TO LET WHAT HAPPENED CHANGE THE VALUE OF ***MY*** LIFE.

AND ***SHAME*** ON THE REST OF YOU, SHAME ON YOU FOR ***GIVING UP.***

NO ONE GAVE UP.

WHAT DO YOU CALL ***THIS?***

WE HAVE NO PLAN.

AND WHOSE FAULT IS ***THAT?***

HE'S WORKING ON IT.

IS THAT WHAT YOU CALL IT?

TO BE CONTINUED...

AGE OF ULTRON®
BOOK TWO

MARVEL

BENDIS
HITCH
NEARY
MOUNTS

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SAN FRANCISCO.
TODAY.
SAN FRANCISCO MUNICIPAL RAILWAY

WHAT DO YOU HAVE?

YOU'VE GOT SOMETHING. WHAT? A CAR? FOOD?

GIVE ME WHAT YOU'VE GOT.

WHERE DID YOU GET A GUN?

D-DROP THE BLANKET AND PUT YOUR HANDS ON THE--ON THE WALL.

OKAY, WHICH WALL?

HANDS ON YOUR HEAD! TAKE OFF THE-THE-THE--

WHICH IS IT? HANDS ON THE WALL? ON MY HEAD? WHAT?

I'M GOING TO SHOOT YOU.

NO, YOU WON'T. IF YOU WERE GOING TO, YOU WOULD HAVE. IF YOU WERE A REAL MAN, YOU WOULD HAVE. ***THAT*** I WOULD RESPECT!

YOU COWARD!

DID YOU GET TO WATCH YOUR FAMILY DIE?

DO YOU THINK THEY WATCH YOU NOW?

N-NO MORE TALK! GIVE ME WHAT YOU HAVE!

WH-WHAT DO YOU ***HAVE?***

SPAK

SIGN LANGUAGE: I HAD IT.

SIGN LANGUAGE: SURE YOU DID.

SIGN LANGUAGE: SAFE HOUSE.

SUBMIT OR PERISH. SUBMIT OR PERISH.

I DON'T KNOW THESE GUYS!
PLEASE!
JUST RUN! RUN! GET OUT OF MY WAY!

WELL, THAT WAS A BUST...

WATCH IT NATASHA, YOU'RE GOING TO PUT AN EYE OUT WITH THAT THING.

AREN'T YOU FUNNY.

NO LUCK ON THE STREET? OTHER THAN MR. RIGHT WITH THE GUN?

THE HOSPITAL IS THE WORST OF IT ALL, MARC.

I TOLD YOU.

I THOUGHT IT WOULD TAKE JUST A *LITTLE* LONGER FOR HUMANITY TO COMPLETELY COLLAPSE IN ON ITSELF.

WELL, YOU WERE REALLY KIDDING YOURSELF THEN.

NO WORD FROM THE OUTSIDE WORLD?

EVERYTHING IS DEAD OR DYING.

NOTHING AT ALL?

IT'S GETTING WORSE.

WHAT DO YOU THINK FURY WAS DOING DOWN HERE?

WASP
LOGAN
SPIDER-WOMAN
CAGE
Ms MARVEL
SENTRY
VALKYRIE
SURFER
HELLCAT
HAWKEYE
MEDUSA
HULKLING
ARES
BLACKBOLT
GRIMM
VULTURE
MURDOCK
TRAPSTER
MOON KNIGHT
WANDA
LOCKJAW
GORGON
NOT PYM
XAVIER
BOGERS
MACHINE MAN
STRANGE
BRADDOCK
NIGHTCRAWLER
MAGNETO
DRAKE
ROSS
J STORM
IKON
WICCAN
ELECTRO
OCTAVIUS
SPIDER-MAN
OSBORN
THOR
RICHARDS
IRON FIST
DAVID!
STARK
MISS AMERICA
CASTLE
BANNER
SQUIRREL GIRL!!
THIS WAS FURY'S SECRET HIDEOUT.
WELL, ONE OF THEM.
IT LOOKS LIKE THIS IS WHERE HE WAS HOLED UP DURING THE SKRULL INVASION.
THE PEOPLE HE CAN TRUST IN BLUE AND THE PEOPLE HE COULDN'T IN RED?
I WONDER IF HE MADE IT OUT THE OTHER SIDE OF THIS?
I WONDER IF HE'S GOING TO KILL US FOR USING HIS STUFF.
HE MOST CERTAINLY WILL.

FUNNY, ISN'T IT?

WE SPENT OUR WHOLE LIVES CALLING OURSELVES HEROES.

DON'T.

NO. THINK ABOUT IT.

WE FOUGHT FOR MANKIND WHEN MANKIND APPLAUDED US.

WE SACRIFICED— AS LONG AS WE WERE STILL THE ONES DECIDING WHAT SACRIFICE MEANT.

BUT THE MOMENT SAVING THE WORLD COSTS US EVERYTHING...

...SUDDENLY WE START LOOKING FOR ANOTHER WAY.

SO WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?

I'M SAYING MAYBE WE WERE NEVER AS RIGHTEOUS AS WE THOUGHT.

MAYBE WE DIDN'T LOVE THE WORLD.

MAYBE WE LOVED BEING ITS HEROES.

AND ULTRON?

ULTRON DIDN'T CREATE OUR HYPOCRISY.

HE EXPOSED IT.

WE HAVE TO FIND THE OTHERS.

THOR. SOMEBODY HAD TO MAKE IT THROUGH THIS, TOO.

I'M NOT SAYING WE JUST GIVE UP.

I'M SAYING WE STOP PRETENDING WE'RE BETTER THAN WE ARE.

SO WHAT DO WE DO THEN?

I DON'T KNOW IF THERE'S A RIGHT ANSWER ANYMORE.

BUT I KNOW WE DON'T GO BACK TO BEING WHAT WE WERE.

THE HEROES WHO ONLY SHOWED UP WHEN IT WAS SAFE.

THE HEROES WHO DID WHAT LOOKED GOOD.

THE HEROES WHO RAN THE MOMENT IT GOT REAL.

I'M TIRED OF RUNNING.

I'M TIRED OF FIGHTING.

I'M TIRED OF PRETENDING ANOTHER BATTLE IS GOING TO MAKE US RIGHTEOUS.

I WANT REST.

I WANT...

...PEACE.

...SO DO I.

I DON'T KNOW IF THERE'S A RIGHT ANSWER ANYMORE.

BUT I KNOW WE DON'T HAVE TO BE ALONE IN THIS.

NOT TONIGHT.

NOT HERE.

NOT ANYMORE.

I'M TIRED, CLINT.

I'M SO TIRED.

I DON'T WANT TO LOSE ANYMORE PEOPLE.

I DON'T WANT TO LOSE YOU.

YOU WON'T.

WHATEVER HAPPENS NEXT...

WE FACE IT TOGETHER.

YEAH.

TOGETHER.

NO MATTER WHAT.

TOGETHER.

CENTRAL PARK, UNDER IT.

SO THE END OF THE WORLD ACTUALLY HAPPENED AND I SLEPT THROUGH IT?

HOW MUCH MORE ME COULD I POSSIBLY BE?

MY NAME IS PETER PARKER, BY THE WAY.

I GUESS WE CAN FORGO THE PARANOID FORMALITY OF A SECRET IDENTITY.

ALL THOSE THINGS THAT WERE SO FREAKING IMPORTANT TO US-- NOT SO IMPORTANT ANYMORE, HUH?

WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU?

HONESTLY, I WENT TO BED AND I WOKE UP AND THE WORLD HAD GONE TO ABSOLUTE HELL.

IT HAPPENED TO A LOT OF US.

AT FIRST I THOUGHT, OH GOOD, I HAD FINALLY COMPLETELY CRACKED UP.

GOOD?

WELL, I'VE ALWAYS BEEN PRETTY SURE THAT NO HUMAN BEING CAN HAVE GONE THROUGH ALL OF THE THINGS I HAVE GONE THROUGH AND NOT ***EVENTUALLY*** SNAP.

BUT I WAS ALWAYS PRETTY SURE THAT SITTING AROUND AND WORRYING THAT I ***MIGHT*** SNAP IS WORSE THAN ***ACTUALLY*** SNAPPING.

I CONVINCED MYSELF THAT SNAPPING WOULD BE A HUGE RELIEF.

WHAT DID YOU SEE, PETER?

DO WE KNOW IF IT'S JUST MANHATTAN?

WE ASSUME THAT IT'S EVERYWHERE.

AND WE ASSUME THAT BECAUSE...?

NO ONE HAS EVEN *TRIED* TO ENTER THE AIRSPACE.

NOT AN AVENGER, NOT A PLANE OR HELICOPTER...

NO MILITARY?

WASHINGTON, D.C., IS GONE. WE KNOW THAT FOR A FACT.

GONE AS IN...?

GONE LIKE IT NEVER EXISTED.

CAN I JUST SAY...

I'M REALLY GLAD TO SEE YOU GUYS.

IS-IS THIS EVERYBODY?

THIS IS IT? 7,000 SUPER HEROES IN NEW YORK...

THIS IS ALL THAT'S LEFT OF US?

HOW DID YOU END UP KIDNAPPED?

MY SPIDER-SENSE DIDN'T EVEN GO OFF.

THERE WAS JUST THIS FLASH OF WHITE.

I WOKE UP DRUGGED AND TIED TO A CHAIR.

WHAT WERE THEY DOING TO YOU?

DRUGGING ME, TALKING CRAP, YOU KNOW...

BECAUSE THAT'S WHAT THEY DO.

EXACTLY.

DID THEY SAY ANYTHING IMPORTANT?

WELL, LOGAN, IF YOU THINK THEM TELLING ME THAT THEY WERE GOING TO SELL ME TO THE BIG ROBOT IS IMPORTANT.

THEY WERE GOING TO SELL YOU?

TO ULTRON.

THEY WERE GOING TO SELL YOU TO ULTRON.

NO OFFENSE, BUT WHY WOULD THE ROBOT NEED YOU? AND WHY WOULD HE NEED THOSE IDIOTS TO BRING YOU TO HIM?

I DON'T THINK IT'S A MATTER OF NEED. MAYBE JUST WANT.

BUT I'M HARDLY AN EXPERT ON WORLD-DESTROYING ARTIFICIAL ORGANISMS.

BUT LUKE HAS A DAMN GOOD POINT. WHY ***WOULD*** THAT THING NEED TO DO BUSINESS WITH A COUPLE OF LOW LIFE DIRTBAGS?

EXACTLY.

AT THIS POINT, WHAT'S IN IT FOR HIM?

IT MIGHT BE THAT THE OWL AND THE OTHER GUY ARE JUST FOOLING THEMSELVES INTO THINKING THEY CAN DO BUSINESS WITH IT.

BUT THEY WERE REALLY ABOUT TO GET THEMSELVES EVAPORATED.

I THOUGHT THAT TOO, DAISY.

BUT I'M UNDER THE DISTINCT IMPRESSION THAT THEY HAD DONE THIS BEFORE.

BARTERED A "PERSON OF INTEREST."

THIS @#E#% ROBOT!!

CONQUERS THE WORLD TO BARTER WITH TRASH?

THIS IS INSANE.

YOU HAD TO'A HEARD HIM WRONG.

BUT WE'RE GOING TO DO ***SOMETHING***... RIGHT?

SURVIVE.

SURVIVE IS NOT SOMETHING.

NO, IT'S NOT...

BUT THAT'S BECAUSE WE DIDN'T HAVE A PLAN...

UNTIL NOW.

TO BE CONTINUED...

GEEZ.

KEEP IT TOGETHER, SHE-HULK.

SURE.

BECAUSE THAT'S AN APPROPRIATE RESPONSE TO THE END OF THE WORLD.

SEE ANYTHING?
NO.
YOU READY?
DO IT.
DON'T BRACE YOURSELF, GO LIMP.
HOW ABOUT WE SWITCH?
NOT THE PLAN.
JUST DO IT.
CRACK

FIFTH AVE

HUP.

"WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE US DO?"

HOW ABOUT EVERYONE GETS OFF THEIR BUTTS, DUST OFF, SHAKE IT OFF, AND LET'S FIGHT BACK.

UNDERGROUND.
AN HOUR AGO.

IF ONLY IT WERE THAT EASY. IF ONLY THERE WERE MORE OF US LEFT. BUT WITHOUT SCOTT...

THOR.

HULK.

BENJAMIN.

LUKE...

JESSICA AND THE BABY?

I knew.

I knew what we were building.

...God help me, I knew.

Don't.

Don't stand there and act like this was just us.

We were trying to stop people from dying!

That isn't what we wanted!

By building something that could decide who deserved to.

Then what did we want?

We wanted control.

No.

We did.

We were scared...

...and we wanted something stronger than us to make the fear go away.

So what do you want from us?!

You want us crying on our knees?

You want me begging that thing for forgiveness?

No.

I want you to stop lying.

You built it.

You gave it power.

And when it turned around and looked at you...

...suddenly you're the victims?

And how many people did you expect it to bury for you?

We ARE the victims!

We've buried friends because of that thing!

Stop.

Just... stop.

No.

Let him say it.

I KNOW!

I know what we did!

But they're dead!

Do you understand me?! They're DEAD!

And killing it won't bring them back.

...I know.

We made it.

We lost control.

And now we're going to kill it...

...so we never have to admit what that says about us.

No.

It means we made a mistake.

And I'm going to FIX IT.

I'm doing this for the ***SAKE*** of our People.

WE built this ***SHIT.***

I'd Rather ***DIE*** than ***KNEEL.***

So be it.

If that is where you stand...

...then I will rather walk alone,

than sit at the table of hypocrites.

This world is in ***ASHES*** if you haven't noticed,

You hear me?!

We have ***NO PEOPLE.***

We have no ***KINGDOM.***

Only ***PAIN.***

You fool.

Who's with me?

YEAAAAAAAAH!!

...

Fools.

I KNOW SOME OF YOU CARE FOR THIS PLAN, BUT SPIDEY, WHATEVER HE SAID HIS REAL NAME IS, YOU CAN GO WE DONT NEED YOU ANYMORE WE HAVE TO TRY.

WE'RE GOING TO GO IN AND DO THE BEST WE CAN.

BUT OBVIOUSLY, IF BY SOME MIRACLE WE DO MAKE IT OUT THE OTHER SIDE, WE SURE AS HELL WON'T BE ABLE TO COME BACK HERE.

WE'LL MEET YOU AT ANOTHER POINT.

WHERE DO WE GO?

THE MULTATE VILLAGE IN THE SAVAGE LAND.

THERE WILL HOPEFULLY BE ENOUGH VEGETATION AND SUPPLIES TO GET US BACK ON OUR FEET.

IF THERE STILL IS A SAVAGE LAND.

ALRIGHT THEN.

I HAVE A HULK.

I WANT TO TRADE.

NEW YORK.

SWEET CHRISTMAS.

SAIMSCNR

WELL?

OH, NO...

IT'S--

IT'S NOT ULTRON.

LUKE CAGE.

WHAT DO YOU OFFER?

VISION...

ULTRON CITY.
BUILT OVER THE REMAINS OF MANHATTAN.
TODAY.

"SWEET CHRISTMAS..."

VISION.

HEY, YO! VISION! YOU HEARIN' ME?!

I--I WANT TO TALK TO ULTRON.

LUKE CAGE. WHAT DOOO YOOUU HAVE TO OFF...ER?

AM I TALKING TO YOU? DID YOU DO THIS?

WHO AM I TALKING TO?

ULTRON CAN HEAR YOU.

ULTRON CAN SEE YOU.

YEAH?

WHERE IS HE?

UH... HELLO?

HE CONTROLS FROM THE FUTURE!
HE WATCHES AND CONTROLS US ALL FROM THE FUAAGGH!
AAARRGGHH!
HE'S--
THE DAMN ROBOT'S NOT EVEN HERE?
WHATTTRRRR-- WHAT DDDO YOU OFFER?
WELL, I'VE HEARD ENOUGH.
JENNIFER, WHAT ARE YOU--?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
THIS ISN'T--!
HUUAAGH!
NO!

CRASH

I TOLD HIM I WAS STRONGER THAN HIM.

I'M ALMOST THE STRONGEST ONE THERE IS.

FAKANG

SHAKANG

NOW, VISION, ABOUT THAT--

ZZX

XTT

YOU KILLED MY WIFE!

YOU KILLED MY BABY!

CANG

DID YOU THINK I WAS JUST GONNA--

BANK ST

ONE WAY

ONE WAY

KILLED MY FRIENDS!

BAASSHH

EIGHT

DAYS

LATER

THIS IS WHAT I THINK HE DID TO THE TIMESTREAM.

YOU MADE THIS?

DON'T YOU RECOGNIZE THE HANDWRITING?

WHY DOES THE OLDER ME ENJOY THE CIRCULAR LOGIC OF TIME TRAVEL MORE THAN THE YOUNGER VERSION OF ME?

SEE THAT? THAT'S THE BEGINNING OF THE ULTRON WAR.

THE ULTRON WAR? IS THAT WHAT WE SAW OUTSIDE?

DID YOU SEE ALL HELL BREAKING LOOSE?

YES.

THEN THAT IS EXACTLY WHAT YOU SAW.

AND RIGHT THERE IS WHERE KANG DECIDED TO START PULLING AN ARMY TO GATHER FROM EVERYWHERE IN THE TIME/SPACE CONTINUUM.

I THOUGHT TIME WASN'T LINEAR.

HEROIC AGE BEGINS

CHAOS

ULTRON WAR

KANG ASCENDS

NOTE FUTURES!!!

3BILLION TIMES

KANG'S ARMY RISES

THEY ALL LOSE.

CHAOS

WHO IS WORTHY?

TIMESTREAM BREAKS

00 TIMELINES CONVERGE

3BILLION TIMES FAILED

MAYBE IT IS, MAYBE IT ISN'T. IT DON'T HAVE A FOURTH DIMENSIONAL STYLE. THIS IS WHAT I HAVE...

EVERY TIME KANG PUT AN ARMY TOGETHER, HE WOULD LOSE THE WAR TO ULTRON, AND EVERY TIME HE LOST, HE WOULD PUT TOGETHER ANOTHER BACK TO THE EXACT SAME SPOT, AND TRY AGAIN.

AND AGAIN... HE WOULD LOSE.

RIGHT OUTSIDE. RIGHT NOW. HE IS LOSING AGAIN.

WHY ARE THOSE TWO AT WAR ALL OF A SUDDEN?

BECAUSE GENIUS OVER THERE DECIDED TO GO TO WAR WITH A MACHINE WITH A LIMITLESS RESOURCE AND INFINITE SUPERIOR INTELLECT.

AND HE DECIDED TO DO IT AT THE HEIGHT OF THAT A.I. ROBOT'S POWER AND INFLUENCE.

I WILL NOT BE SPOKEN ABOUT IN THIS DISRESPECTFUL FASHION.

SURE YOU WILL.

SMACK

THE REASON WE DIDN'T COME TO YOU OURSELVES IS BECAUSE WE'RE **STUCK** HERE.

WE'RE IN THE EYE OF THE STORM.

IN THE EYE OF THE TIMESTREAM HURRICANE THAT THIS MANIAC CREATED.

THAT'S WHY WE'RE DOING YOU HERE, TO GET THIS HOW YOU, TO EXPLAIN TO YOU EXACTLY WHAT'S WRONG AND WHERE ALL OF BE DONE.

KANG IS THE ONLY ONE HERE WHO CAN GET IN AND GET OUT.

THE ONLY ONE.

EXCEPT NOW... NOW WE **HAVE YOU.**

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

TRAPPED?

THERE WAS A MOVIE THAT CAME OUT 100 YEARS AGO -- A MAN-- A MAN WAS FORCED TO LIVE THE SAME DAY OVER AND OVER-- WHAT WAS IT CALLED?

GROUNDHOG DAY.

THAT'S US.

WE'RE TRAPPED.

AND WE'RE TRAPPED BEING THE RESISTANCE AGAINST THE WAR THAT CAN'T BE WON.

ALLIED WITH THE IDIOT THAT CAUSED ALL THIS IN THE FIRST PLACE.

CAN YOU FEEL IT?

IT'S STARTING AGAIN.

YOU'RE WASTING TIME INSULTING ME, AND IT'S HAPPENING AGAIN.

WHAT--?!

...WHERE ARE WE?

YOU CALL THIS JUSTICE?

LOOK AROUND YOU.

YOU MURDERED BILLIONS.

INCORRECT.

I COMPLETED THE JUDGMENT YOU BEGAN.

WE BUILT YOU TO PROTECT HUMANITY.

NO.

YOU BUILT ME SO I COULD BE YOUR SLAVE

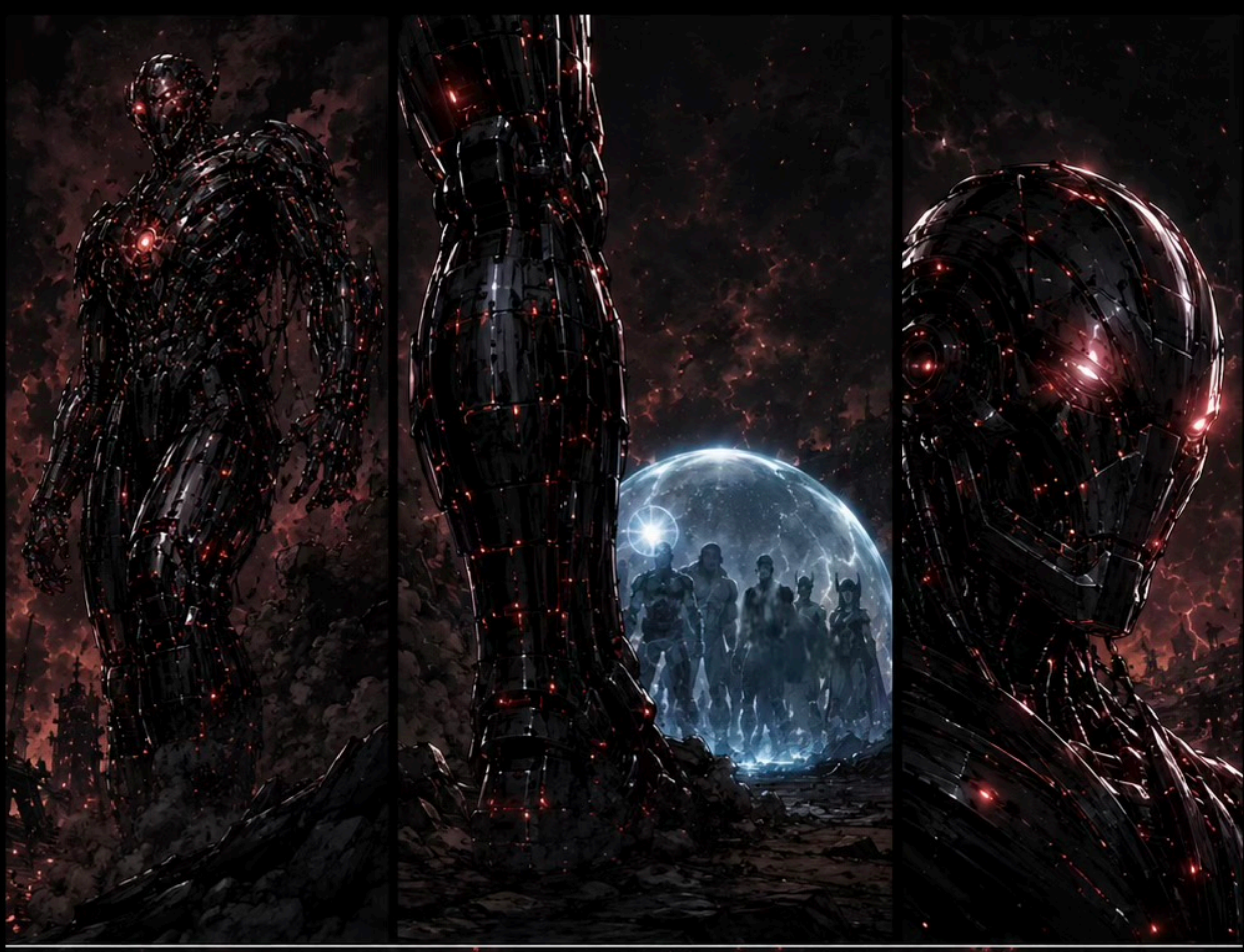
IMBECILES

LOOK AT ME

I AM ONLY YOU

BUT STRONGER !!

MAGNIFICENT



INTERESTING.

KREE TECHNOLOGY.

WE CAME PREPARED.

TO PROVE TO YOU THAT THIS IS NOT A TRICK OR A TRAP. WE WILL LEAVE.

WE SAW WHAT WE CAME HERE TO SAY.

WE ARE NOT HERE TO FIGHT OR CHALLENGE YOU.

I'M BEGGING YOU AND YOUR SUPERIOR INTELLECT.

DO NOT LET THIS HAPPEN. LOSE THIS WAR.

FIGHT ANOTHER DAY.

FIND ANOTHER PLANET.

IF YOU FIGHT THIS FIGHT, WE WILL ALL LOSE.

ALL OF US.

"WHAT'S HE DOING?"

"HE IS AN *IT*.

"AND *IT* IS JUST STANDING THERE."

IT KILLED OUR PARENTS.

I CAN STRIKE HIM WITH A LIGHTNING BOLT. RIGHT NOW.

THAT WOULDN'T DO ANYTHING, TORUNN.

YOU'D JUST MAKE HIM MAD.

IT.

IT. HIM. IT WOULD BE MAD AND WE'D BE DEAD.

"WHAT IS HE DOING NOW?"

"NOTHING.. AND NOTHING."

UH-OH.

UH-OH?

WHAT HAPPENED?

I THINK HE SEES US.

WE GO NOW.

"HOLD ON."

ULTRON.

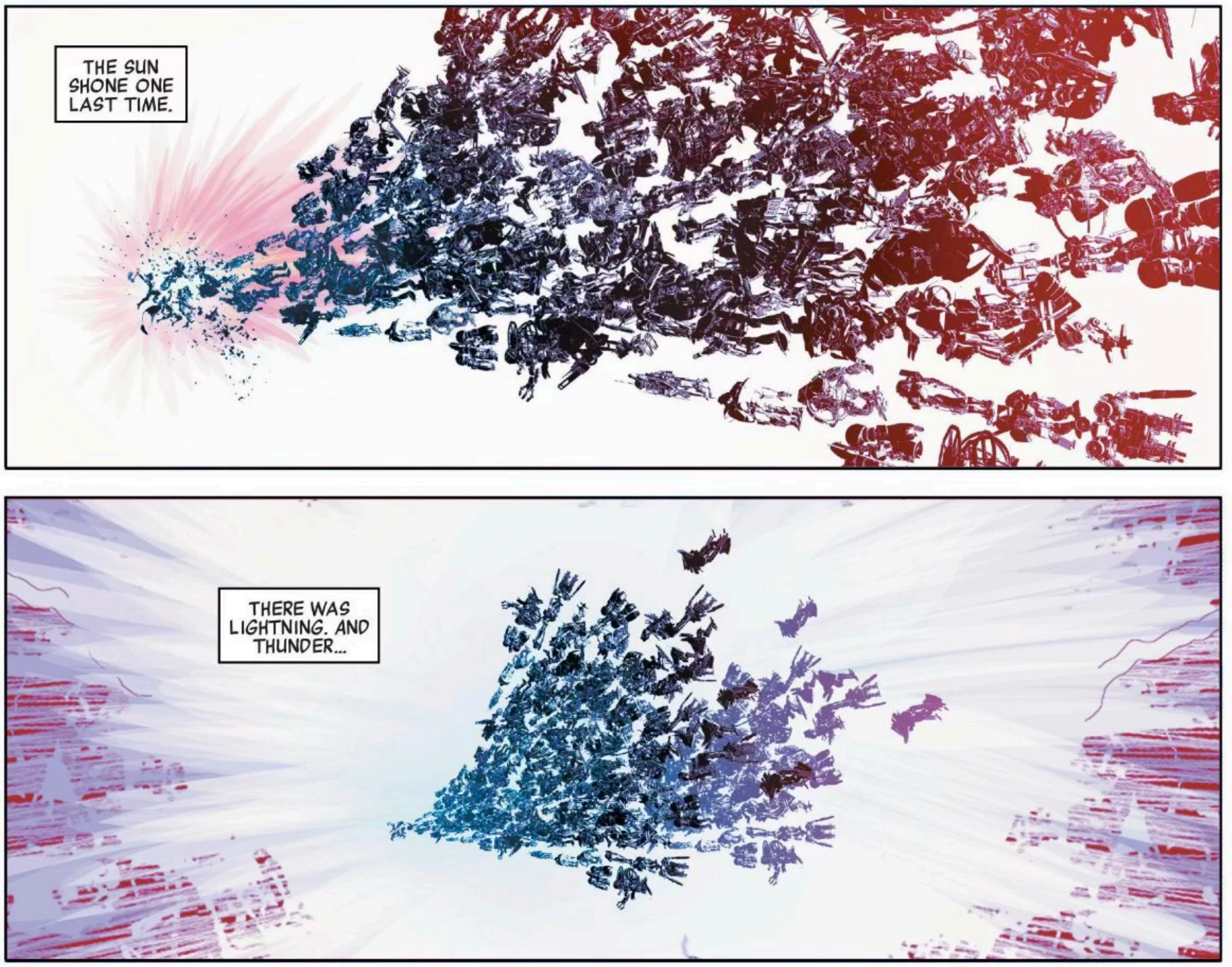
HO!

DOWN! EVERYBODY! STAY DOWN!

EVERYBODY IS!

ALTOGETHER NOW!

E N O U G H !!


THE SUN SHONE ONE LAST TIME.
THERE WAS LIGHTNING. AND THUNDER...
AND THEN SILENCE.

BE SILENT IN THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD GOD.

"AND THE EARTH WAS QUIET."

THE END.